

In the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Currently amended) Apparatus for assisting an individual using a client computer to analyze a domain-specific parameter, comprising:
a server computer executing computer program instructions to
 - (1) receive from the client computer an identification of a parameter to be analyzed,
 - (2) obtain from a data source a current value for the parameter, and
 - (3) provide to the ~~user~~ client (a) computer an evaluation of the current value and (b) an explanation of a possible significance of that evaluation, by selecting text from among a plurality of selectable text templates and inserting values onto the selected template.
2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein providing an evaluation of the current value includes dividing into broad bands a range the parameter values have experienced over a predetermined period of time, mapping the current value into one of said bands and textually relating the current value in terms of said bands.
3. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein providing an evaluation further includes providing text relating a possible or likely significance of the value falling within a specific band.
4. (Original) The apparatus of any of claims 1 - 3 further including the server computer executing program code to provide a reference to one or more additional tools or parameters that might beneficially be studied next.
5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the parameter to be analyzed is a performance characteristic of a publicly traded security.

6. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium having encoded therein computer program instructions for execution by a server computer for assisting an individual at a client computer to analyze a domain-specific parameter, said computer program instructions comprising instructions which, when executed, cause the server computer to

(1) receive from the client computer an identification of a parameter to be analyzed,
(2) obtain from a data source a current value for the parameter,
(3) provide to the client computer (a) an evaluation of the current value and (b) an explanation of a possible significance of that evaluation, by selecting text from among a plurality of selectable text templates inserting the current value onto the selected template.

7. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 6, wherein the instructions which cause the server computer to provide an evaluation of the current value include instructions dividing into broad bands a range the parameter values have experienced over a predetermined period of time, ~~and instructions~~ relating the current value in terms of said bands mapping the current value into one of said bands and instructions textually.

8. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 7, wherein the instructions causing the server computer to provide an evaluation further include instructions which when executed cause the server computer to provide text relating to a possible or likely significance of the value falling within a specific band.

9. (Original) The computer program product of any of claims 6 - 8 further including instructions which when executed by the server computer provide a reference to one or more additional tools or parameters that might beneficially be studied next.

10. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the parameter to be analyzed is a performance characteristic of a publicly traded security.

11. (Original) A method for assisting an individual to analyze a domain-specific parameter, comprising:

- a. providing a server computer;
- b. providing a client computer in communication with the server computer;
and
- c. operating the server computer to execute computer program instructions to
 - (1) receive from the client computer an identification of a parameter to be analyzed,
 - (2) obtain from a data source a current value for the parameter, and
 - (3) provide to the user computer an evaluation of the current value and an explanation of a possible significance of that evaluation.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein operating the server computer to provide an evaluation of the current value includes executing program instructions to divide into broad bands a range the parameter values have experienced over a predetermined period of time, and relating the current value in terms of said bands by selecting from among multiple potential texts text appropriate to explain the current value and assembling a presentation which relates to the current value in terms of said bands.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein operating the server computer to provide an evaluation further includes operating the server computer to execute instructions providing a possible or likely significance of the value falling within a specific band.

14. (Original) The method of any of claims 11 - 13 further including the server computer executing program instructions to provide a reference to one or more additional tools or parameters that might beneficially be studied next.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the parameter to be analyzed is a performance characteristic of a publicly traded security.